Attorney Docket No.: VOSS1170

In re Application of Ulrich Braun

Application No.: 09/890,113

Filed: January 7, 2002

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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] The described disadvantages of the state-of-art technologies are eliminated by means of the following method for operating a urine separating toilet using a device for the urine separating toilet according to the invention and its exemplary and/or preferred embodiments. In one embodiment, a method is provided herein that includes:

- a) opening a urine outlet (202) if a user sits down upon a toilet or a toilet seat (A) or tips the toilet seat (A) backward,
- b) closing of the urine outlet (202) if the user rises or tips the toilet seat (A) downward, and
- c) flushing the entire toilet bowl when the urine outlet (202) is closed, wherein solids that remain around or upon the closed urine outlet can be transported with flushing water to the faecal outlet. In certain aspects, a flushing valve button (D) is blocked if a user sits down upon the toilet seat (A) or tips the toilet seat (A) backward, and the flushing valve button (D) is released again if the user rises or tips the toilet seat (A) downward.

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

[0010] The advantage of this method is the simple control of the toilet by means of the employment of sensors. In an especially preferred embodiment, the very workings of the human excretory process are employed in the control of the water-free urine outlet. In a especially preferred embodiment, this control method comprises the following steps:

- (a) A preferred embodiment comprises sensors (3), especially preferably pressure sensors (3), which cause direct and/or indirect reactions as soon as a person sits down on a toilet seat (A).
- (b) In another especially preferred embodiment, the reactions caused in (a) and/or (c) produce an opening in the urine outlet (202) by a device (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, [[14]], B, and C) for opening the water-free urine outlet (202).

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(c) In another especially preferred embodiment, the reactions caused in (a) and/or (b) produce a closure, or a blocking of the push-button (D) of the device for flushing (E) the toilet bowl by a feature (8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 23) for blocking a flushing valve, such as a flushing the push-button (D), or other suitable measures, to prevent a flushing process in the toilet bowl.

- (d) In another especially preferred embodiment, the said sensors in (a) cause preferably direct and/or indirect reactions as soon as a person rises from the toilet seat (A).
- (e) In another especially preferred embodiment, the reactions caused in (d) and/or (f) produce a closure of the urine outlet (202) by a device (26) for closing the water-free urine outlet (202).
- (f) In another especially preferred embodiment, the reactions caused in (d) and/or (e) produce an opening, or a release of the push-button (D) of the device for flushing (E) the toilet bowl, or other suitable measures, to reverse the reactions in (c). When the push-button (D) is pressed, it activates the device for flushing (E) the toilet bowl, wherein solids that remain around or upon the closed urine outlet (202) can be transported with flushing water to the faecal outlet (203).

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] In a further especially preferred embodiment, the sensors (3) in the urine outlet (202) can be utilized identifying and/or distinguishing substances which may be put into the toilet, such as urine, faeces, toilet paper etc. The reactions then caused by the sensors (3) can regulate the water consumption of the toilet.

Please replace paragraph [0032] with the following amended paragraph:

[0032] Therefore, the stiff bar <u>having ends</u> (6) [[-]] <u>and</u> (8), which revolves mounted on an axle (7), is pressed down at the end of (6), and thus the end (8) is pressed up.

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Please replace paragraph [0038] with the following amended paragraph:

[0038] At the same time, the stiff bar <u>having ends (19) [[-]] and (21)</u>, revolving mounted on axle (20), is now forced backwards at the joint (1827).

Please replace paragraph [0043] with the following amended paragraph:

[0043] Detail A shows details of both blocking mechanisms. Blocking-plugs (11) and (18) can snap into the blocking-holes (16a) and (12). Thereby, both blocking-shutters (13) and (16) become immovable. After the snapping out of blocking-plugs (1011) and (1718), both blocking-shutters (13) and (16) become movable upward again along their grooves (12a), in which axles bars (10) and (17) stick.